

Message Text

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00704 140810Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 SCS-06 CA-01 /019 W
-----010520 140952Z /23

R 131446Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7290
INFO AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 0704

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, APER (HAM, BRADFORD W.)
SUBJ: HAM-WORRES MARRIAGE CASE

MOFA OFFICIAL HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT, AFTER REVIEWING
CASE UPON HIS RETURN TO ADDIS, PERMSEC DAWIT SAID THAT
INCORRECT DECISIONS WERE MADE IN HIS ABSENCE WHICH LED
TO DENIAL OF AZIEB'S REQUEST FOR EXIT PERMIT. DAWIT
HAS INSTRUCTED MOFA TO MAKE ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC SECURITY TO RELENT ON THIS CASE. EMBASSY
WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR EARLY POSITIVE ANSWER.
MATHERON

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 HA-05 TRSE-00
OMB-01 EB-08 DOE-11 SOE-02 DOEE-00 /143 W
-----010510 140827Z /17

P R 131447Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7292
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USINT HAVANA
COMIDEASTFOR
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ADDIS ABABA 0704

BERN FOR INDIAN OCEAN DELEGATION

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4. ETHIOPIANS SHOWED JOURNALISTS 17 PRISONERS IN HARAR. THEY CLAIMED THERE WERE CURRENTLY 30 SOMALI BRIGADES (45-60,000 TROOPS) IN OGADEN INVOLVED IN FIGHTING, ASSISTED BY 5-12,000 "ARAB" TROOPS WHICH NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED. ETHIOPIANS MAINTAINED THERE WERE NO SOVIET OR CUBAN TROOPS INVOLVED IN FIGHTING, AND THAT ETHIOPIA HAD NO INTENTION TO INVADE SOMALIA. HOWEVER, ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS ADMITTED THAOKSSOMALIS OCCUPIED 70 PER-CENT OF THE OGADEN AT PRESENT. REPORTERS BELIEVE THEY WILL BE GRANTED INTERVIEW WITH DIRG CHAIRMAN MENGISTU FEB 14.

5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR FROM EVIDENCE SHOWN TO JOURNALISTS THAT ETHIOPIAN FORCES ARE CLEARLY ON OFFENSIVE AND ARE MAKING PROGRESS IN NORTHERN OGADEN. ETHIOPIANS ARE FEELING EXTREMELY CONFIDENT ABOUT THEIR PROSPECTS IN THIS AREA, BUT EXPECT OFFENSIVE WILL TAKE SOME MONTHS RATHER THAN WEEKS TO COMPLETE SUCCESSFULLY. JOURNALISTS WERE NOT CONVINCED OF ANY US COMPLICITY WITH SOMALIS, BUT DID NOT RULE OUT ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER WESTERN AND ARAB COUNTRIES. JOURNALISTS' TRIP MAY HAVE BEEN STAGE-MANAGED IN REFERENCE TO SOVIET AND CUBAN PRESENCE. AT SAME TIME, COLLATERAL EVIDENCE WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT ETHIOPIAN CLAIMS OF BATTLEFIELD SUCCESSES, AND IT NOW APPEARS TO BE MORE A QUESTION OF HOW LONG OFFENSIVE WILL TAKE, RATHER THAN IF IT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. DESPITE STRONG ASSURANCES TO THE CONTRARY, QUESTION OF ETHIOPIAN FORCES CROSSING SOMALI FRONTIER STILL REMAINS AN OPEN ONE, ESPECIALLY IF SOMALIS CAN EFFECT AN ORDERLY WITHDRAWAL WITH MUCH OF THEIR EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL INTACT. MATHERON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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To: STATE INFO BRAZZAVILLE
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